

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously presented) A process for repetitively producing and removing coke from a delayed coker vessel, wherein the coker vessel has a bottom portion defining an aperture through which coke is released, comprising:
 - (a) Sealing an aperture closure housing to the bottom portion of the coker vessel;
 - (b) moving a closure member within the closure housing to close the aperture;
 - (c) feeding a heavy hydrocarbon feed into the coker vessel through a feed line attached to the coker vessel at a side entry position above the bottom of the coker vessel;
 - (d) coking the heavy hydrocarbon in the coker vessel;
 - (e) moving the closure member within the closure housing to open the aperture to allow coke removal from the coker vessel; and
 - (f) releasing coke through the aperture, and;
 - (g) repeating steps b through f successively.

3. (Currently amended) The process ~~in~~ of Claim 2 wherein step (a) further comprises sealing a transition spool piece to the coker vessel bottom and attaching the feed line to the spool piece at a side entry position.

4 – 5 (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented.) The process of Claim 2 wherein step (a) further comprises sealing a coke chute to the bottom portion of the aperture closure housing.

7 – 9 (Canceled)

10 – 18 (Canceled)

19. (Withdrawn) A coker vessel comprising:
- (a) a vessel having a flanged side aperture and a flanged bottom aperture;
 - (b) a flanged feed pipe fitted to said flanged side aperture;
 - (c) an aperture closure unit fitted and sealed to said bottom aperture;
 - (d) a closure member moveable within said closure unit;
 - (e) A coke chute sealed to the bottom portion of the closure unit for directing coke from the vessel to a receiving area.

20. (Withdrawn) The coker vessel of Claim 19 wherein the closure member comprises a valve.
21. (Withdrawn) The coker vessel of Claim 20 wherein the valve is a gate valve, a ball valve, a slide valve, a knife valve or a wedge plug valve.
22. (Withdrawn) The coker vessel of Claim 20 wherein the valve further comprises a power actuated valve.
23. (Withdrawn) The coker vessel of Claim 20 wherein the bottom aperture is from 30 to 90 inches.